

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are all the claims pending in the present application. The Examiner has withdrawn the previous rejection based on the single reference Hogan et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/01111180). The Examiner has now applied a secondary reference Rune et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7,031,707) in addition to Hogan to allegedly render claims 1-16 unpatentable. Specifically, claims 1-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Hogan in view of Rune.

Hogan is directed to telecommunications, and particularly to the structure and operation of shared telecommunication networks. To facilitate determination of access rights in a shared network context, the telecommunications network of Hogan transmits, in a broadcast channel over an air interface, an access group eligibility message (300-2) to a user equipment unit (30). The access group eligibility message enables the user equipment unit to ascertain, on a basis of access group to which the user equipment unit belongs, whether the user equipment unit is eligible to operate in a cell for which the access group eligibility message is transmitted. *See Abstract of Hogan.*

Rune is directed to a method and apparatus for providing an indication, in a system which uses a gateway location register to reduce signaling between visitor location registers and home location registers, to a home location register of the features not supported by a visitor location register. The indication of the features not supported by the visitor location register can be provided to the home location register during a location update message or a data restoration request message exchange. The indication can also be provided in an information update message. *See Abstract of Rune.*

In the Appeal Brief, Applicants successfully argued that Hogan does not disclose or suggest at least, “transferring roaming agreement information from a core network to a radio access network,” and “said roaming agreement information is transferred independently of messages linked to calls or user equipments,” as recited in claim 1 and analogously cited in independent claims, 11, 13, and 16.

In the current Office Action, the Examiner alleges that secondary reference Rune makes up for the deficiencies of Hogan.

In response, Applicants maintain the previously submitted arguments regarding Hogan and further submit that Rune does not disclose or suggest transferring information between a core network and radio access network. Rune discloses transferring information between different entities of a core network, which does not satisfy the above-quoted features.

Accordingly, at least based on the foregoing, Applicants submit that independent claims 1, 11, 13, and 16 are patentably distinguishable over Hogan and Rune, alone or in combination.

Applicants submit that claims 2-10, 12, and 14-15 are patentable at least by virtue of their respective dependencies from independent claims 1, 11, 13 and 16.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

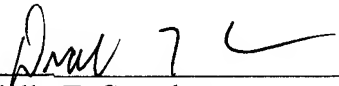
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